

State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913 PH (517) 373.2420 | FAX (517) 373.2764 www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/garcia/

For Immediate Release June 11, 2004

Contact: Karen Szczepanski 517-373-2420 Larry Steckelberg 517-373-0857

Sen. Garcia and Rep. Byrum await Michigan Packaging Company's decision to stay in Mason

LANSING – The Michigan Economic Development Corporation has approved a Retention Employment Credit for Michigan Packaging Company located in Mason, Michigan.

State Sen. Valde Garcia, R-Howell and Representative Dianne Byrum, D-Onondaga, welcomed news that Michigan Packaging Company may retain its current facility in Mason instead of relocating it out of state thanks to a grant offered by the MEDC. Both Garcia and Byrum are anxiously awaiting Michigan Packaging Company's decision regarding the final location of the plant.

"I am pleased Michigan Packaging Company now has the tools it needs to stay in Michigan," Garcia said. "I have worked with my legislative colleagues and with company leaders for the past two months in an effort to help them stay in our state. The grant that was offered to the company today completes our efforts and will provide the incentives Michigan Packaging needs to make their decision."

"We are determined to keep Michigan a competitive place for companies like Michigan Packaging," Byrum said. "This grant is the kind of creative and collaborative effort we need to keep good paying jobs for the families of Michigan."

Michigan Packaging Company, a manufacturer of corrugated paper sheets, was established in 1967 in Eaton Rapids and moved to Mason in 1995.

The company also was considering locating this facility in Fort Wayne, Indiana.